

night, he said they would actually get cold at night.

In a normal day he said they would go into a city and look for insurgents. If found, they would try to eliminate them, all while trying to protect and liberate the Iraqi people, Holbrook said.

"We slept when we could, ate when we could, and there wasn't much time for a bath," Holbrook remembers.

Even though he was wounded in his first tour, receiving the Purple Heart, he still went back for the second tour, deployed for seven months each time. In addition to the Purple Heart, he also received the National Defense Medal, Iraqi Freedom Medal, Combat Action Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and Global War on Terrorism Medal.

Holbrook said the hardest thing he had to deal with when he returned to the States was coping with the loss of a friend, who was killed during their first tour together.

Holbrook is married to Britani Holbrook, and has three kids, Gavin, Austin and Bentley.

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM MORTIMER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Jim Mortimer. Mortimer hails from Magoffin County, KY, and served his country honorably over the course of his career with the Kentucky National Guard.

After graduating from Castle Heights Military Academy in Tennessee, Mortimer enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves. Only 22 at the time, it would be 30 years before he retired from the military.

In 1960, 2 years after enlisting, he was transferred to the Kentucky National Guard. His experiences in the Guard ran the gamut from clearing out swamps in southern Georgia to riot control on the University of Kentucky campus during the Vietnam war to responding to natural disasters. It is this diverse range of service to our country that epitomizes the National Guard motto—"Always Ready, Always There."

Mortimer retired from the Guard in 1988 with the rank of command sergeant major. In addition to his military service, he also took the time to substitute teach in Lexington high schools and obtain his masters from Georgetown College.

His service to this country is worthy of our praise here in the Senate—so, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Jim Mortimer.

The Salyersville Independent recently published an article detailing Mortimer's military career. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Salyersville Independent, July 3, 2014]

#### MORTIMER RETIRES FROM THE GUARD

(By Heather Oney)

Geared up early for a career in the military, Magoffin native Jim Mortimer left Magoffin when he was 14 years old and attended Castle Heights Military Academy, in

Lebanon, Tennessee. When he was 22 years old and with the draft imminent, Mortimer joined the U.S. Army Reserves in Sistersville, West Virginia, in 1958.

In 1960 he was transferred to the Kentucky National Guard and was called to active duty during the Berlin Crisis in 1962.

Mortimer's unit replaced another unit that had been deployed to Germany, taking their place at Fort Stewart, Georgia, in charge of repairing vehicles and armament, as well as various National Guard functions, he said, such as riots and natural disasters.

While he was never sent overseas, he said the year he spent in southern Georgia preparing to be deployed was his strongest memory of his service.

For a year Mortimer said they lived in Quonset huts and were tasked with clearing out swamps with saws and rakes, cutting trees and brush along the way.

Also while he was at Fort Stewart, Mortimer said they had a tornado and all the men got in their vehicles armored much like tanks, while he and two other sergeants laid in the ditch.

"It was maybe a mile away," Mortimer laughed. "Just lots of wind."

With an extremely flat terrain, he said lightning was a problem there, with two of their soldiers hit. He remembers one was near a radio and the lightning hit the antenna, knocking him out of his boots.

During Desert Storm, Mortimer was sent to Frankfort, working as a liaison aiding the dependents of the men at war.

During his 30 years of service, he worked at Fort Knox, Kentucky; Fort Campbell, Kentucky-Tennessee border; Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Fort Hood, Texas; and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Mortimer was involved in rifle marksmanship on the Kentucky State Rifle Team, winning several awards. He had a scout troop sponsored by the National Guard, as well.

In North Little Rock, Arkansas, he attended National Guard matches, where Guards from all over sent teams to compete.

During active duty, Mortimer taught second lieutenants in Officer Candidate School (OCS), as well as many other courses, such as marksmanship and all weapons.

In 1965 he was called to deal with Vietnam War riots on the University of Kentucky's campus, where students had burned down the ROTC building.

Mortimer obtained the rank of command sergeant major in 1980, retiring from his employment with the Kentucky National Guard and as a part-time soldier in 1988.

While in the Guard, Mortimer went to school, receiving a degree in 1980. He began substitute teaching in Lexington high schools while still in the service.

In 1973 he returned to Magoffin and started substitute teaching in 1977 at the middle school and high school, where he eventually retired from in 2000. In the meantime, he received his masters from Georgetown College in 1982.

Mortimer is presently a member of the Salyersville Kiwanis and works part-time with the Magoffin County Sheriff's Office. He has a daughter and two sons, as well as six grandchildren. His wife of 53 years, June, passed away in 2011. In 2013, he married Gail King Mortimer and the two sons still live in Magoffin.

#### RECOGNIZING ELIZABETHTOWN COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Elizabethtown Community

and Technical College, ECTC, a comprehensive community and technical college that has been serving the central Kentucky region since 1964. ECTC provides education and training to all types of Kentuckians to prepare them to succeed in a constantly changing world.

ECTC is a member of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. It provides accessible and affordable education and training through academic and technical associate degrees; diploma and certificate programs in occupational fields; pre-baccalaureate education; adult, continuing and developmental education; customized training for business and industry; and distance learning.

ECTC has its roots in the founding of the Elizabethtown Community College, which first opened its doors in 1964 to 355 students from 11 counties. Meanwhile, Elizabethtown Technical College was founded in 1965 through a bond issue by the Elizabethtown Independent School Board. ECTC was formed by the consolidation of the two schools in 2004, following historic legislation in 1997 that established the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

For five decades, ECTC has enriched the lives of citizens by providing access to quality, affordable academic, technical and community education programs, and by partnering with communities to enhance the economic vitality of the region. A comprehensive college with regional reach, ECTC now offers certificates, diplomas and associate degrees through 34 academic and technical programs on the Elizabethtown, Springfield, Leitchfield and Fort Knox campuses, and at extended campus sites throughout its 12-county service area.

Enrollment has grown steadily from 355 students in 1964 to 7,000 today, and thousands of alumni have distinguished themselves through service to their professions and communities.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the college will celebrate 50 years of educational excellence and service to Kentuckians. I want to be among the many who congratulate ECTC for 50 years of outstanding service in education to the central Kentucky region. I want to commend the school for 50 years of educating Kentuckians, and thank its president/CEO, Dr. Thelma J. White, for her extraordinary leadership of the institution.

#### REMEMBERING GERALDINE FERRARO

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I wish to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Geraldine Ferraro's nomination as the Democratic candidate for Vice President of the United States.

On the night of July 19, 1984, Gerry gave her acceptance speech as the first woman to be nominated for U.S. Vice President by a majority party. I was there, experiencing the thrill, excitement, and turbo energy as 10,000 people

jammed the Mosconi Center. Male delegates gave their tickets to female alternate delegates and their daughters. Gerry's walk on stage was electrifying. We gave her a 10-minute resounding ovation and wouldn't sit down. That night, a barrier was broken. That night, they took down the "men only" sign on the White House. For Gerry and all American women there was no turning back—only going forward.

Some people only knew Gerry as a political phenomenon, but I first knew her in Congress. She was a born fighter—for New York and every little guy and gal. She was an advocate for women, fighting for our status and giving us a new stature. Long after the campaign was over, she continued to be a source of inspiration and empowerment.

When Gerry was chosen for the Vice Presidential nomination, she showed modern American women what we had become and what we could be. Women felt that if Gerry could go for the White House, we could go for anything. For some of us women, that meant going to Congress to make a difference. Today, I know Gerry would be so proud of all we have accomplished. Back when we met in the House, we were the early birds. We weren't afraid to ruffle some feathers, but we were in the minority. In 1979, there were 16 women in the House: 11 Democrats and 5 Republicans, and 2 women of color. Today, there are 79 women in the House: 60 Democrats, 19 Republicans, and 30 women of color. As the Dean of the Senate Women, I am proud we are 20 women strong in the Senate: 16 Democrats and 4 Republicans. Together, we are changing the tide and changing the tone.

We have had some amazing victories along the way. We increased breast cancer research funding at NIH by 750 percent to \$657 million in fiscal year 13. We increased childcare funding by 75 percent—\$2.2 billion in fiscal year 14. We made sure good science included women by founding the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health. The research from that office has changed medical practices, reduced breast cancer by 15 percent, and saved lives a million at a time. This year, we celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Act, which kept the courthouse doors open for women to sue for discrimination. Last October, women on both sides of the aisle created the climate for compromise that was crucial to ending the disastrous government shutdown.

We have had some amazing victories, but we still have more to do. The Senate women are fighting for women across America. We know women need a raise to raise their families. That is why we are fighting for equal pay for equal work and to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. We are fighting for a better minimum wage because we know that a full-time job shouldn't mean full-time poverty. We are fighting for education that helps our kids every

step of the way. We want to give working families peace of mind and give children quality care for a brighter future. Passing my bipartisan child care and development block grant bill will bring affordable, accessible childcare to working families.

Women need a social safety net they can count on, at every age and in every stage. That is why we are fighting so hard for seniors by saving Medicare from becoming a coupon and a promise. We are ensuring Social Security remains guaranteed, lifetime and inflation proof. We are also fighting for health care that is affordable and accessible, by passing the Affordable Care Act to end gender discrimination in health care. I was so proud when we passed my Mikulski preventive health amendment, so simply being a woman is no longer a preexisting condition. We are taking a stand against the Supreme Court decision that denies women contraception and family planning, while valuing employer rights over employee rights. And we are fighting to ensure the safety and education of women and girls around the world—whether they are in Nigeria, Central America, or Afghanistan.

When Gerry took the stage at the 1984 Democratic Convention, she forever altered the course of history. For the rest of her life, she remained dedicated to empowering thousands of women in the United States and around the world. Today, we honor her lasting legacy and her impact on generations of women with a dream—and a desire to make a difference.

#### STENNIS CENTER PROGRAM FOR CONGRESSIONAL INTERNS

Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, 2014 is the 12th year in which summer interns working in congressional offices have benefited from a program run by the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership. This 6-week program is designed to enhance their internship experience by providing an inside look at how Congress works and a deeper appreciation for the role that Congress plays in our democracy. Each week, the interns meet with senior congressional staff and other experts to discuss issues such as the legislative process, power of the purse, separation of powers, the media and lobbying, foreign affairs, and more.

Interns are selected for this program based on their college record, community service experience, and interest in a career in public service. This year, 27 outstanding interns have taken part in the program. Most of the participants are juniors and seniors in college who are working in Republican and Democratic offices in the House or Senate, including two interns in my office, MaryBeth Cox and James Moody.

I congratulate the interns for their participation in this valuable program and I thank the Stennis Center and the Senior Stennis Fellows for providing such a meaningful experience for these

interns and for encouraging them to consider a future career in public service.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of 2014 Stennis Congressional Interns and the offices in which they work be printed in the RECORD.

Brennen Bergdahl, attending the University of North Dakota, interning in the office of Representative Kevin Cramer;

Samantha Bisogno, attending the University of Minnesota Duluth, interning in the office of Representative Rick Nolan;

Ariel Lee Bothen, attending the University of Maine, interning in the office of Senator Angus King;

Tyler Brown, attending The College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, interning in the office of Representative Erik Paulsen;

Paul Bruins, attending the University of Illinois, interning in the office of Representative Rodney Davis;

Molly Cain, attending Stanford University, interning in the office of Senator Chris Coons;

Simon Cardenas, attending the University of the Incarnate Word, interning in the office of Representative Rubén Hinojosa;

Sarah Carnes, attending the University of Georgia, interning in the office of Representative Sanford Bishop;

MaryBeth Cox, attending Mississippi State University, interning in the office of Senator Thad Cochran;

Will Giles, attending Duke University, interning in the office of Representative Ralph Hall;

Sophia Herzlinger, attending Tufts University, interning in the office of Representative Alan Lowenthal;

Ben Hutterer, attending The College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, interning in the office of Senator Al Franken;

Natasha Jensen, attending Northern Illinois University, interning in the office of Representative Robin Kelly;

Kaitlyn Kline, attending South Dakota State University, interning in the office of Representative Kevin Cramer;

Namrata Kolla, attending the Georgia Institute of Technology, interning in the office of Representative Sanford Bishop;

Adam Lewis, attending Willamette University, interning in the office of Representative Peter DeFazio;

Emily Madden, attending the University of Dallas, interning in the office of Senator Mike Enzi;

James Moody, attending Louisiana State University, interning in the office of Senator Thad Cochran;

Mackenzie Muirhead, attending the University of Wyoming, interning in the office of Senator Mike Enzi;

Harnek Neelam, attending the University of Michigan, interning in the office of Representative John Conyers, Jr.;

Meghan Oakes, attending Virginia Tech University, interning on the House Committee on Ways and Means;

Caleb Orr, attending Abilene Christian University, interning in the office of Representative Ralph Hall;

Meg Richardson, attending Smith College, interning in the office of Senator Angus King;

Sapna Sharma, attending Carnegie Mellon University, interning in the office of Senator Debbie Stabenow;

Rachel Shields, attending Wake Forest University School of Law, interning in the office of the Speaker of the House;

Julia Winfield, attending the University of Michigan, interning in the office of Senator Debbie Stabenow; and